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(54) **Tie cutter ring or pruning ring.**

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(33) (32) (31) Conventional priority:

The present invention relates to a tie cutter ring or pruning ring designed to be placed on the finger of a user and to allow the user to cut any ties (wires or [illegible] tapes, hemp, plastic, etc.), this tool comprises a straight blade made of steel and an overmolded support made of a plastic material itself comprising a ring-shaped part and a blade holder
5 protuberance that is bent at an angle returning parallel to the axis of the ring to hold the blade in such a way that the cutting edge of the blade projects in the hollow space between the ring and protuberance. Such a ring would allow, for example, an employee at a postal office to cut letter bundle ties and to proceed with sorting by leaving the ring on his finger.

A ring of this type has already been proposed, but this ring has limited effectiveness
10 in the case of ties that are difficult to cut and presents risks of injuring the user or damaging the tied object (packages, letter bundles, packaging, etc.) because the blade has an extremity that is accessible from the outside.

The object of the present invention is to present a ring of the type initially defined that eliminates these disadvantages.

15 For this purpose, a ring according to the invention is characterized in that the blade comprises a main cutting edge and a secondary cutting edge creating an obtuse angle between them, in that the blade holder protuberance is smooth and rounded on its external surfaces and presents a bulging at its free extremity that masks the blade and holds the blade in such a way that the main cutting edge of the latter is parallel to the axis of the ring.

20 One sees that the shape of the ring has been designed to facilitate its insertion under the tie to be cut and to prevent the blade from either injuring the user or damaging the tied object.

The invention will be better understood upon reading the following description of an example of an embodiment and examining the attached drawings, in which:

- 25
- Fig. 1 is a schematic side view of a ring according to the invention;
 - Fig. 2 is a schematic end view of the same ring; and
 - Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the same ring.

As represented in Figures 1, 2 and 3, a tie cutter ring or pruning ring comprises:

- 30
- A straight blade 1 made of steel wherein the shape pertaining to Fig. 1 (in interrupted lines) is that of a bevel square at an obtuse angle,

for example on the order of 140°; the large flange of this bevel square forms the main cutting edge 1a and the small flange, which is also sharp, forms 1b and allows cutting to be completed in the most difficult cases;

- A support 2 made of a plastic material, such as sold under the trademark "Rilsan,"
5 overmolded by injection under pressure, embeds the blade; this support on its smooth and rounded external surfaces itself comprises a part 21 in the form of a ring and a blade holder protuberance 22 that is bent at an angle, returning parallel to the axis of the ring and holding the blade in such a way that the cutting edges of the latter project in the hollow space between the ring and protuberance, the main cutting edge being parallel to the axis of the ring,
10 while being inaccessible to any body that is not flat or any diameter that is not very thin, because of a bulging 22a of the free extremity of the blade holder protuberance.

The operating procedure of such a ring is as follows.

- The ring is placed on the second phalanx of the middle finger and the blade is turned toward the outside of the hand. This blade of the ring is introduced under the tie to be cut.
15 Pressure is exerted on the tie by the blade and the blade is caused to run against the tie by a movement of the wrist.

Such a ring may be of use in post offices, mail sorting offices, clerical offices and weaving mills, or more generally, wherever ties, wires, tapes, etc., are frequently cut.

- Of course, the molded ring may have several sizes, in such a way as to adapt to
20 difference finger sizes. The ring may also be slit to present a certain elasticity. A stronger model with a larger blade may be used as a fruit picker (apples, pears, grape bunches).

CLAIM

A tie cutter ring or pruning ring designed to be placed on the finger of a user and to allow the user to cut any ties, comprising a straight blade made of steel and an overmolded support made of a plastic material itself comprising a ring-shaped part and a blade holder protuberance that is bent at an angle, returning parallel to the axis of the ring and holding the blade in such a way that the cutting edge of the blade projects in the hollow space between the ring and protuberance, characterized in that the blade comprises a main cutting edge and a secondary cutting edge creating an obtuse angle between them, in that the blade holder protuberance is smooth and rounded at its external surfaces, and presents on its free extremity a bulging masking the blade, and holds the blade in such a way that the main cutting edge of the latter is parallel to the axis of the ring.

FIG.1

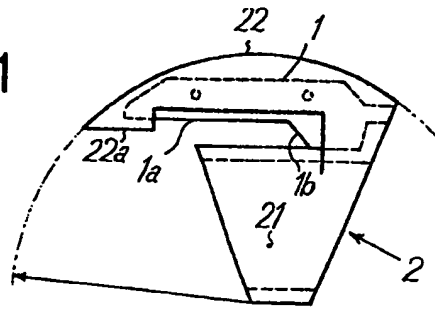


FIG.2

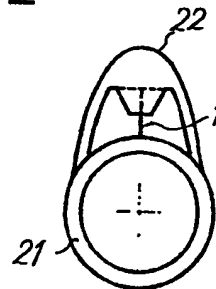


FIG.3

